

REMARKS

Amendments

Claims 1 and 14 are amended to redefine the group R¹. See, e.g., page 1, lines 16-17 and page 3, lines 8-12. Also, a typographical error in claim 1 is corrected. New claims 24-25 are directed to further aspects of applicants' invention. See, e.g., page 3, lines 10-12.

Objection to the Disclosure

In the Office Action it is asserted that the disclosure is "so uncomprehensible" that a reasonable search is precluded. Applicants disagree. The objection to the disclosure concerns two compound names in the Examples. As the Examples only exemplify the invention, not define it, an objection to compound names in the Examples does not preclude a reasonable search from being performed.

The objection concerns the compounds identified by the acronyms "GZU-3-N" and "UZU-3-N." Tables A and B do not specifically identify the structures associate with these acronyms. However, upon review of the acronyms presented in these Tables, one of ordinary skill in the art would recognize that GZU-3-N refers to a compound of applicants' formula Ic and UZU-3-N refers to a compound of applicants' formula If (see page 4 of the specification).

b K

Referring to Table B, there are five structures which have "U" in their name, CDU-n-F, CCZU-n-F, CGU-n-F, UM-n-N and DU-n-N. Comparing these structures and the relative positions of ring groups and letter codes in the acronyms, one would recognize that U stands for a 3,5-difluoro-1,4-diphenylene ring. Referring to the structures identified as CGU-n-F and CCG-V-F, one would recognize that G stands for a 3-fluoro-1,4-diphenylene ring. Referring to the structures identified as CCZU-n-F, CC-n-ZV and CC-n-ZVm, one would recognize that Z stands for -COO-. Finally, by reference to the codes at page 29 and the structures of UM-n-N and DU-n-N, one would recognize that "N" stands for a CN wing group.

In view of the above remarks, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 USC §102(b) in view of US '763 or US '327

Claim 14 is rejected as allegedly being anticipated in view of Gray et al. (US 5,156,763) or Gray et al. (US 5,334,327). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Gray et al. (US '763) and its divisional US '327 both disclose a genus of fluorinated 4-cyanophenyls and 4'-cyanobiphenyl benzoates. These compounds exhibit an R wing group which is R¹ or R¹O, wherein R¹ is alkyl having 1-12 carbon atoms. See, e.g., formula I at column 2, lines 22-35 of US '763. Other compounds disclosed in US '763 which exhibit a -COO- bridge group are described by formulas 3.1-3.3 at columns 6-7.

✓ US '763 and US '327 do not disclose or suggest compounds exhibiting a -COO- bridge group and an alkenyl, alkenyloxy or alkoxyalkyl wing group. Compare applicants' formula I as recited in claims 1 and 14.

In view of the above remarks, it is respectfully submitted that US '763 and/or US '327 fail to anticipate any of applicants' claims. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 USC §102(b) in view of JP 09-157,654

Claim 14 is rejected as allegedly being anticipated in view of JP 09-157,654. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In the rejection, reference is made to formulas (I-1) and (I-2) of JP '654. These formulas describe fluorinated 4-cyanophenyl benzoates exhibiting wing groups R¹¹ or R¹²O, wherein R¹¹ and R¹² are each alkyl having 2 to 5 carbon atoms. No other fluorinated phenyl benzoates are described or suggested by JP '654.

JP '654 does not disclose or suggest compounds exhibiting a -COO- bridge group and an alkenyl, alkenyloxy or alkoxyalkyl wing group. Compare applicants' formula I as recited in claims 1 and 14.

In view of the above remarks, it is respectfully submitted that JP '654 fails to anticipate any of applicants' claims. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection Under 35 USC §103 in view of JP 09-157,654

Claims 1-13 and 15-23 are rejected as allegedly being obvious in view of JP 09-157,654. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The disclosure of JP '654 is discussed above. As discussed, JP '654 fails to describe or suggest compounds exhibiting a -COO- bridge group and an alkenyl, alkenyloxy or alkoxyalkyl wing group, particularly fluorinated 4-cyanophenyl benzoates exhibiting such wing groups. The rejection refers to examples 3-3 and examples 3-5. These examples also

fail to describe or suggest LC displays or LC mediums containing compounds of applicants' formula I as recited in claims 1 and 14.

In view of the above remarks, it is respectfully submitted that JP '654 fails to render obvious any of applicants' claims. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version With Markings To Show Changes Made**".

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,



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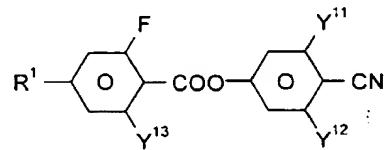
Version With Markings To Show Changes Made

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

--1. An electro-optical liquid-crystal display comprising a realignment layer, for realigning liquid crystals, and a liquid-crystalline medium of positive dielectric anisotropy anisotropy,

wherein said medium comprises one or more compounds of formula I



wherein

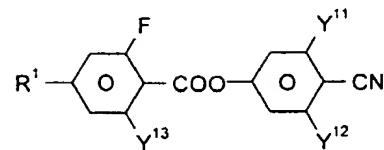
R¹ is H, alkyl having 1 to 7 carbon atoms, alkoxy having 1 to 7 carbon atoms; alkenyl having 2 to 7 carbon atoms, alkenyloxy having 2 to 7 carbon atoms or alkoxyalkyl having 2 to 7 carbon atoms, and

Y¹¹, Y¹² and Y¹³ are each, independently of one another, H or F; and

wherein when an electric voltage is applied to said display an electric field is generated which has a component parallel to the liquid-crystal layer for realignment of the liquid crystals.

14. A liquid-crystalline medium of positive dielectric anisotropy comprising at least two liquid-crystal compounds

wherein at least one of said compounds is of formula I



wherein

R¹ is H, alkyl having 1 to 7 carbon atoms, alkoxy having 1 to 7 carbon atoms, alkenyl having 2 to 7 carbon atoms, alkenyloxy having 2 to 7 carbon atoms or alkoxyalkyl having 2 to 7 carbon atoms, and

Y¹¹, Y¹² and Y¹³ are each, independently of one another, H or F. --